

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 08201 141826Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSM-03 ACDA-12 HA-05 MCT-01
DOE-11 SOE-02 /107 W
-----105077 150401Z /17

R 141554Z MAR 78 ZFD
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6659
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR EG IS
SUBJECT: CRITICISM OF BEGIN; PRAISE FOR WEIZMAN

1. EGYPTIAN PRESS CONTINUES CONTRAST WEIZMAN AND BEGIN, ALWAYS TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE LATTER. RECENTLY, PAPERS HAVE REPORTED WEIZMAN PHONE CALL FROM U.S. THREATENING TO RESIGN UNLESS SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY HALTED AND HIS PRAISE FOR SADAT'S PEACE EFFORTS IN INTERVIEW WITH BARBARA WALTERS.
 2. BEGIN, ON OTHER HAND, WAS SUBJECT OF DEPLORABLE PIECE IN MARCH 13 OCTOBER MAGAZINE BY Wafa TAHA NAGI ENTITLED "BEGIN: HIS FANGS AND NAILS". AUTHOR REFERS TO ALLEGED QUOTE BY BEN-GURION THAT "BEGIN HAS A RACIST, HITLER-LIKE PERSONALITY . . . HE IS READY TO ANNIHILATE ALL ARABS FOR THE SAKE OF TERRITORY. I EVEN SEE IN HIM A THREAT TO ISRAEL FROM WITHIN AND I CANNOT FORGET THAT HE PERSONALLY KILLED SCORES OF PEOPLE IN THE KING DAVID HOTEL . . . I AM SURE THAT BEGIN HATES HITLER BUT
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THIS HATRED DOES NOT MEAN THAT HE DIFFERS FROM HIM."
BEN-GURION ALSO ALLEGEDLY SAID BEGIN'S CLOSE FRIENDS, ESPECIALLY BEN-ELISSAR, HAVE THE TRAITS OF CRIMINALS AND THEIR FACES REFLECT THIS.

3. COMMENT: THIS IS ONE OF THE FEW RECENT PRESS ATTACKS UPON BEGIN PERSONALLY. HOWEVER, IN WAKE EMOTIONAL

ATMOSPHERE CREATED BY LARNACA AFFAIRS, PLO RAID AND
ANTICIPATED ISRAELI REPRISAL, WE FULLY EXPECT MORE OF
SAME. WE WILL CONTINUE TO DISCOURAGE GOE FROM ENGAGING
IN THIS UNHELPFUL ACTIVITY. EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780373/aaaacjir.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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